

RE: CHSSP's suggestion to replace word India for a Civilization
Why the name India is getting replaced with 'South Asia' in History Social Sciences
Framework ?

Respected Board Members,

I am very disappointed to learn that some group of academics have submitted suggested edits to the California History Social Science Framework to replace the key terms - **'India' with South Asia, and 'Hinduism' by 'Ancient Indian Religion'**.

I read the suggested drafts by the South Asian Faculty multiple times. I can only shake my head in dismay every time I read these proposed changes to replace the word 'India' with 'South Asia'. Being born and raised in India under a roof where Hindu culture prevailed with a Hindu family before moving to this wonderful country, America, I'd like to appeal you to listen to the voices of millions of Hindus who disagree with this suggested edit by South Asian Faculty Group.

My understanding is that this board is dealing with the framework refinement process for the California History Social Science. You will appreciate the fact that Greece, Rome, India, and China are all historical civilizations. These are not mere geographies.

The suggested changes that some people are trying to implicate are steering these historical facts from history into geographical factualities. In fact, I feel that it is trying to incorporate politics in history. History and Social Sciences Framework is the basis to represent knowledge about history and culture in academia. Then why is there a suggestion to replace the word 'India' with South Asia?

I do not see the same parameters applied to History of other civilizations, for example: China, Rome, . Respected board members, I sincerely urge you to keep the history as history. Let our children learn the real facts. Let's not mislead them or confuse them with broader geographical terms like 'South Asia' while describing the historical facts of India. We owe these historical facts to our oncoming generation. Let's not politicize it by replacing keywords with some generic words.

Vasanth Shetty